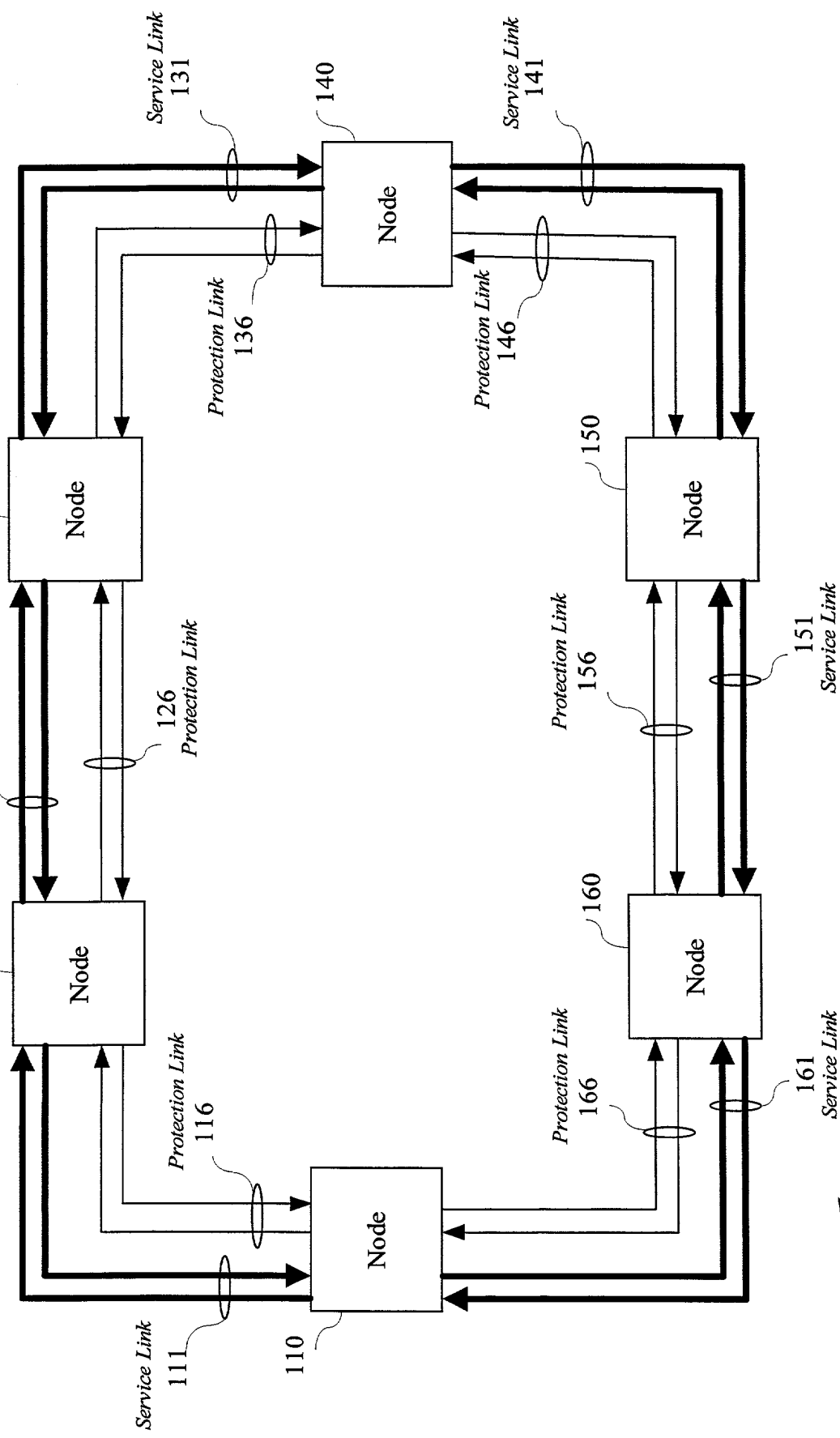
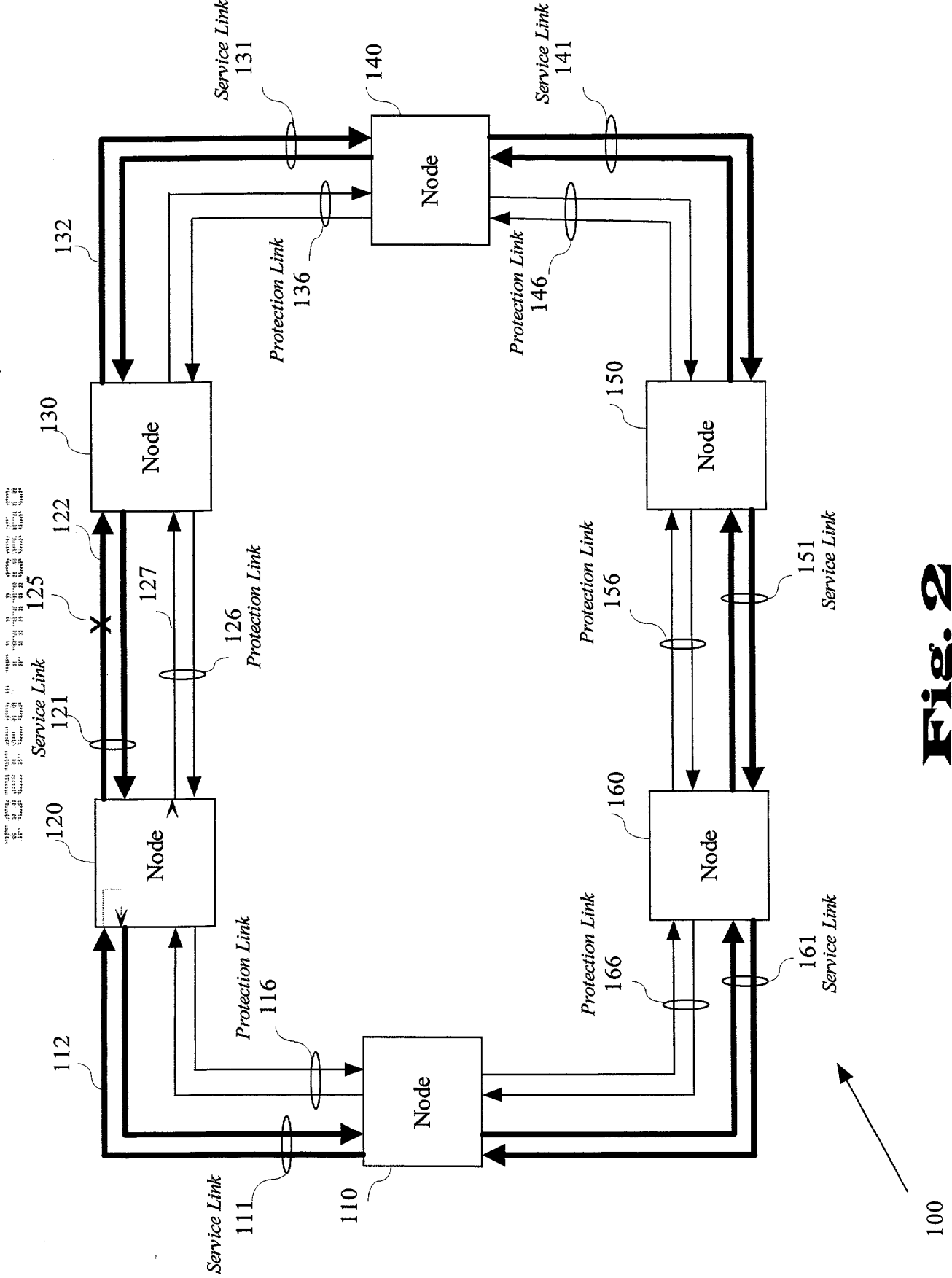


FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a network topology 100. The network topology 100 includes four nodes 110, 120, 130, and 140. Node 110 is connected to Node 120 via a Service Link 111 and a Protection Link 116. Node 120 is connected to Node 130 via a Service Link 121 and a Protection Link 126. Node 130 is connected to Node 140 via a Service Link 131 and a Protection Link 136. Node 140 is connected to Node 150 via a Service Link 141 and a Protection Link 146. Node 150 is connected to Node 160 via a Service Link 151 and a Protection Link 156. Node 160 is connected to Node 110 via a Service Link 161 and a Protection Link 166. The network topology 100 is a mesh network topology.

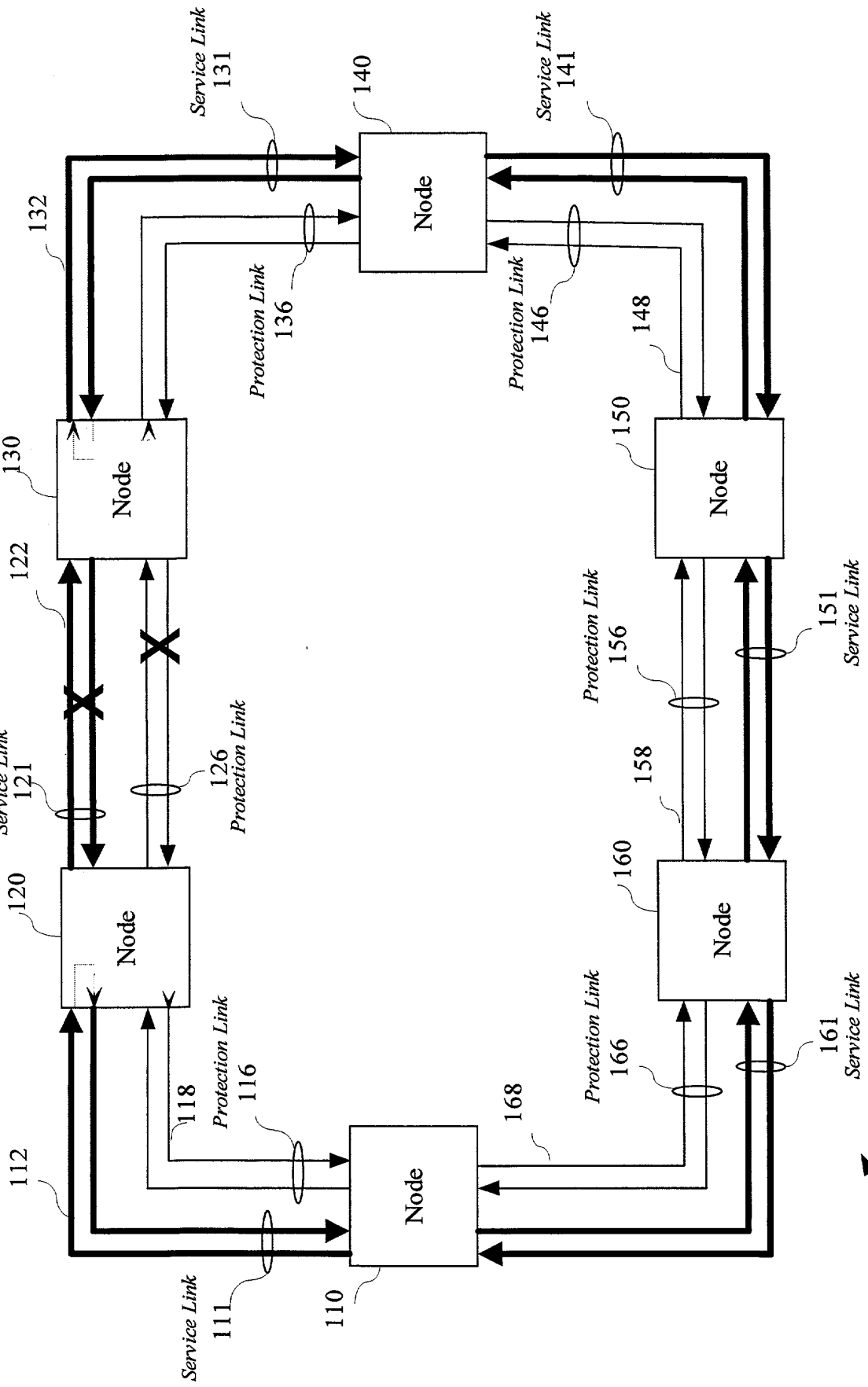


**Fig. 1**



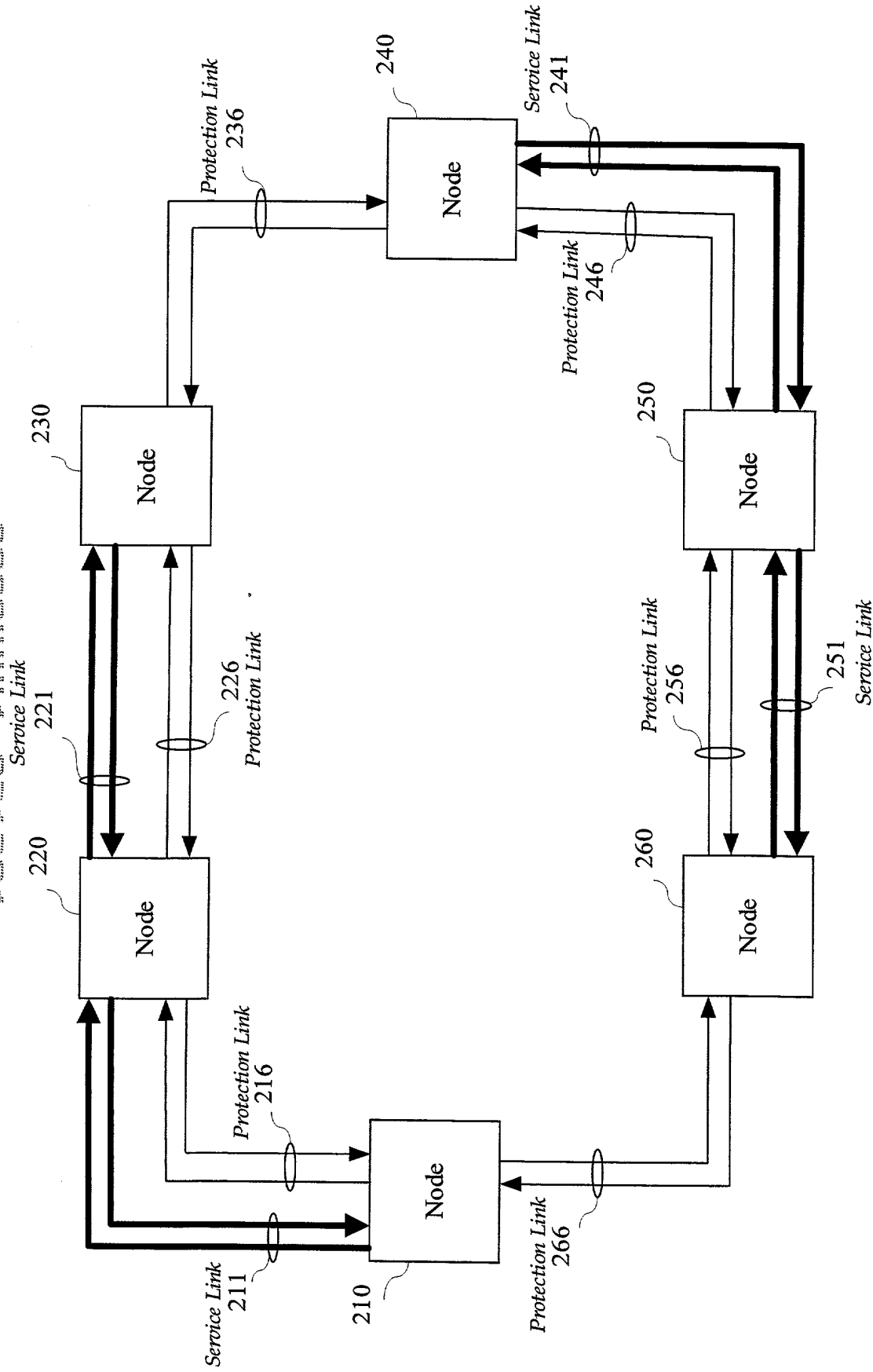
**Fig. 2**

FIG. 3 is a schematic diagram of a network topology showing four nodes (120, 130, 140, 150) interconnected by service links and protection links. The diagram illustrates a mesh-like structure with multiple paths between nodes, including a central cross-connection between nodes 120 and 130 marked with an 'X'.



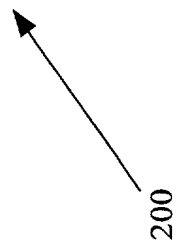
**Fig. 3**

US 6,111,111 B2  
Patented Aug. 19, 1999  
Inventor: [illegible]  
Attorney: [illegible]

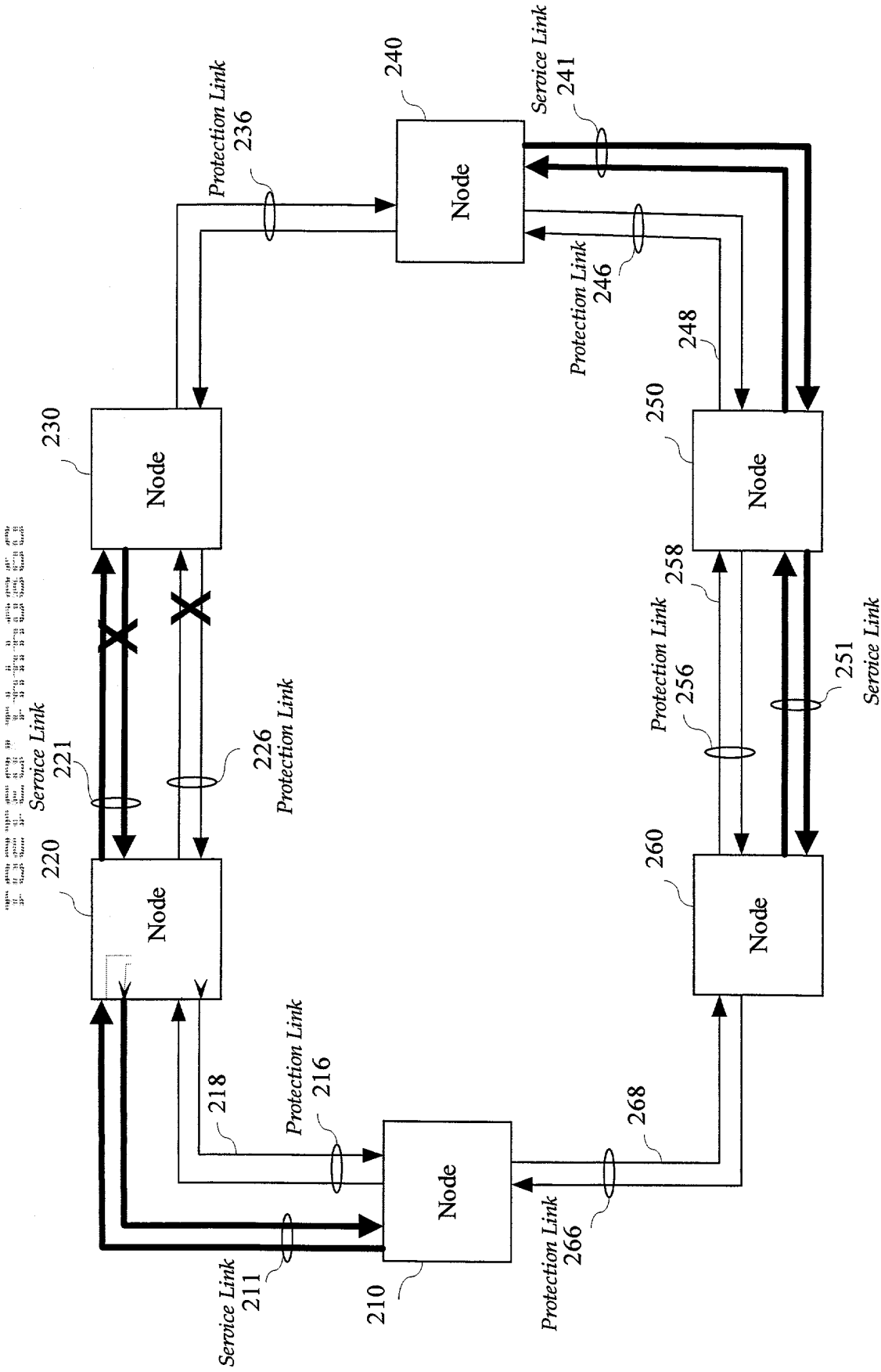


**Fig. 4**

200

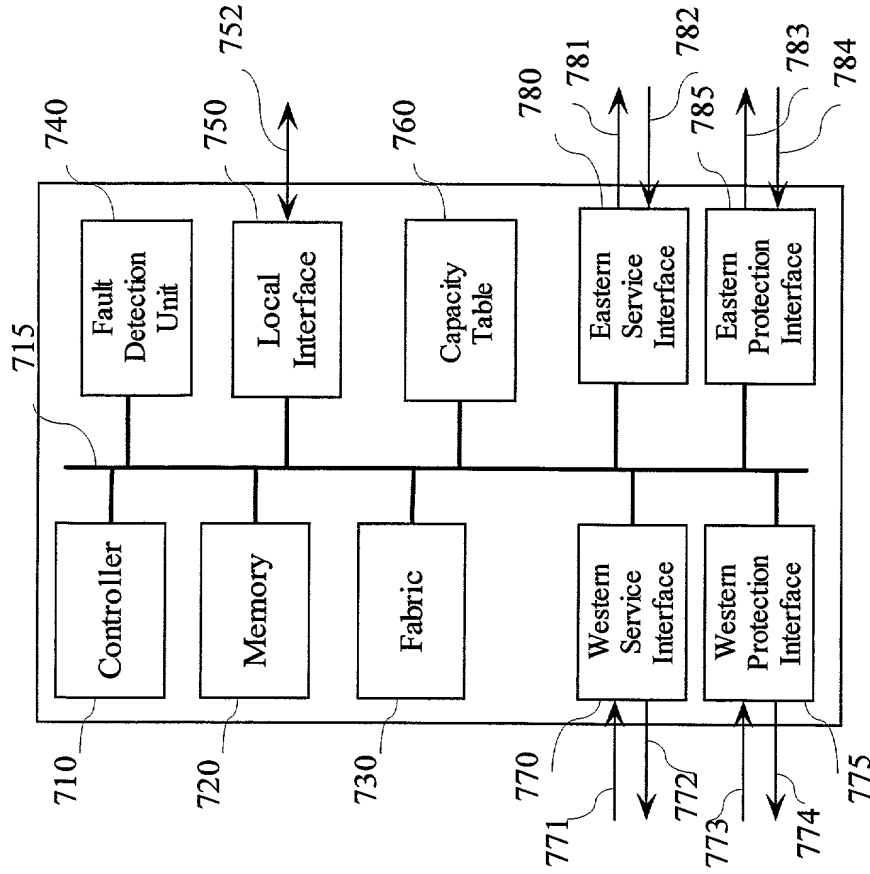


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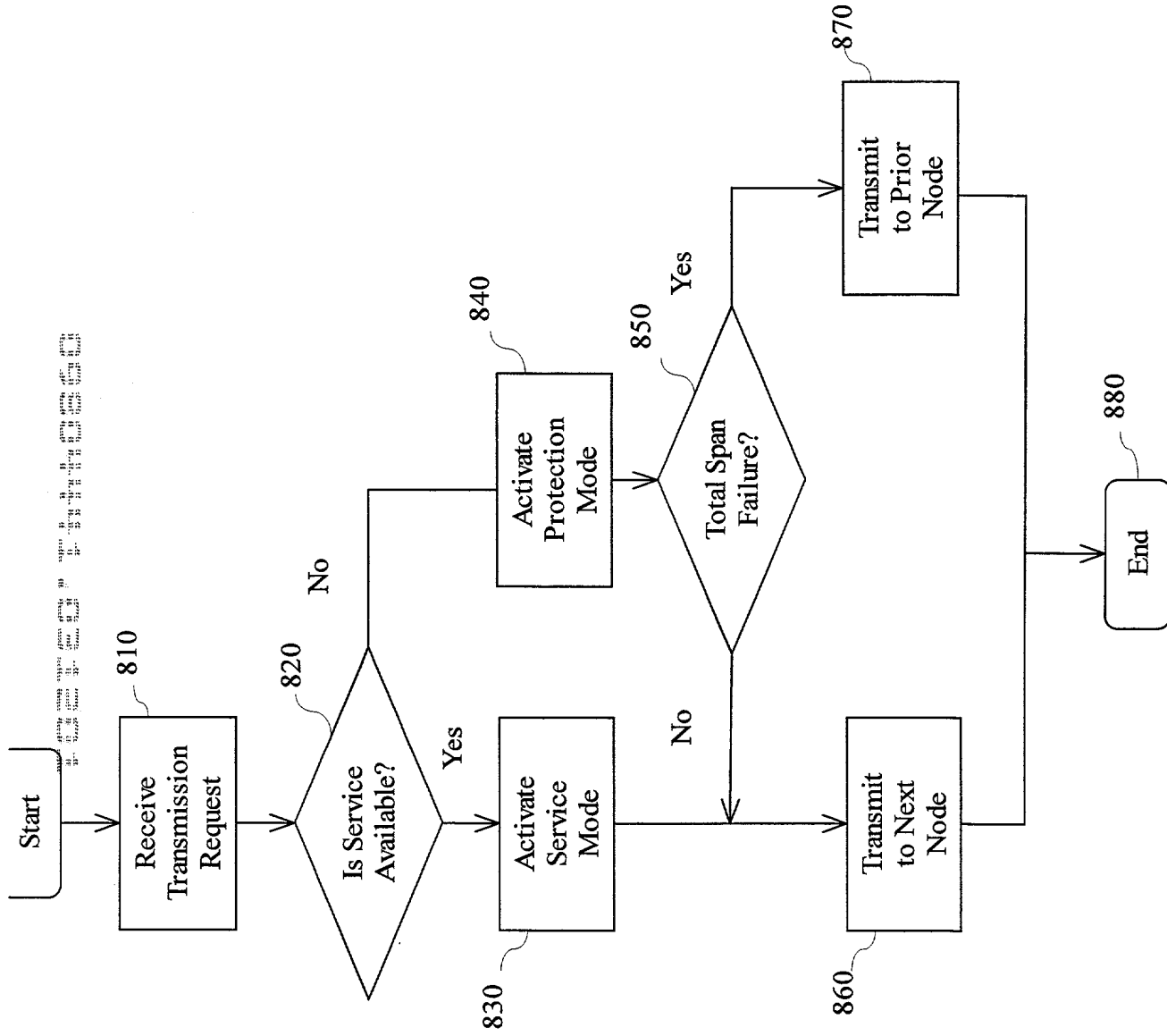
**Fig. 6**

200



**Fig. 7**

700



**Fig. 8**